interest burdens on that date, so that they will immediately be eligible for fresh loan from the banking system.

(ii) The overdue loans fo the farmers as on 01-07-2006 will be rescheduled over a period of 3-5 years with a one-year moratorium.

(iii) A credit flow of Rs. 13817.78 crores will be ensured in these affected districts of Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07.

(c) The funds regarding credit flow and reschedulement of loans will be provided by the Banks whereas the burden of interest waiver wil be shared by Central Government and State Governments on 50:50 basis and necessary budgetary provisions will be provided accordingly.

(d) The information will be collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Interest rate on Provident Fund deposits

596. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present interest rate on the Provident Fund deposits;

(b) whether there is any demand to enhance the PF interest rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government consider enhancing the interest rate; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not if the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The present rate of interest on Public Provident Fund (PPF) Scheme is 8 per cent per annum.

(b) to (e) Proposals in regard to various small savings schemes including changes in the rate of interest on deposits, are received from time to time. The interest rate on small savings schemes including PPF are reviewed periodically. The last revision of the interest rates was made with effect from 1.3.2003 on the basis of recommendations of the Expert Committee (2001) chaired by Dr. Y.V. Reddy, the then Dy. Governer, Reserve Bank of India. There is no proposal currently under consideration of the Government, to enhance the interest rate on Provident Fund deposits.